

**2003 END OF SEASON REPORT  
BOONE CREEK ALLOTMENT**

TERM GRAZING PERMIT				AUTHORIZED USE				ACTUAL USE Reported by Permittee			
NO.	ON DATE	OFF DATE	H.M.	NO.	ON DATE	OFF DATE	H.M.	NO.	ON DATE	OFF DATE	H.M.
1286	6/6	10/15	5537	889	6/6	10/15	3858	799	6/3	9/24	2995

**UNIT DATES AND UTILIZATION RESULTS:**

ACTUAL GRAZING SCHEDULE			ALLOWABLE STDS	ACTUAL RESULTS
UNIT NAME	ON DATE	OFF DATE	RIPARIAN % Use/Stubble Height	RIPARIAN % Use/Stubble Height
BLM/FS Garden Creek	6/3	6/24		
Right Fk. Boone Creek	6/25	7/2	50%/4"	5"
Road Creek	7/1	7/25	50%/4"	4"
Ramey Creek	7/26	8/20	50%/4"	4"
Fox Creek	8/21	9/12	50%/4"	4"
Castle Rock	9/13	9/16	50%/4"	No Data
Left Fork Boone Creek	9/17	9/26	50%/4"	3",4"

**Allotment Inspections:** Allotment inspections were conducted on the following dates: 7/29, 8/25, 9/3, 9/8, 9/22, 10/27, 10/28. Allotment inspections include cattle location checks and utilization monitoring.

**Information:** The district experienced a below average precipitation year for the fourth year in a row. Summer rainfall was scarce throughout the allotment units. Annual vegetation production was below average for the fourth consecutive year. Seed production of bunchgrasses was extremely low. July and August were the warmest and driest months. September was seasonably cooler but provided little relief from drought stress to range.

**Utilization:** End of season stubble height standards were met on all units. Little Boone Creek in the Fox Creek unit continues to receive heavy utilization between the river road and wet meadow. The upper half of the left fork of Boone Creek received heavier use than the remainder of the left fork and measured 1 inch below standard. The main stem of Boone Creek gradually received lighter use from the confluence of the left and right fork to the mouth of the canyon. It met standard below the confluence of the forks, and was observed to be taller than standard below the key area for the remainder of the reach.

**Compliance with Unit Schedule and Project Maintenance:** Allotment units were used in sequence according to annual operating instructions. Fence maintenance continues to be completed to forest standards. Some small numbers of cattle drifted onto the horse wallow and Lehman Basin units of the copper Basin allotment. Permittees responded promptly to correct cattle drift situations.

Actual use was 54% (2995) of full permitted head months, and 799 cattle, or 62% of full permitted cattle. Cattle were removed from the allotment 21 days early due to drought conditions.

**Recommendations:**

Continue to plan grazing periods and cattle numbers conservatively to account for drought effects to water and forage supplies.